STATION

STATION

(METERS)

STATION

(METERS)

573

STATION

(METERS)

95.28

95.74

93.63

92.84

92.72

93.63

95.92

95.74

95.62

95.40

95.28

95.37

95.19

94.91

95.40

95.43

94.61

94.61

94.67

95.19

95.62

95.65

95.68 95.55

95.28

95.34

94.40

94.12

93.82

95.19

95.40

95.40

97.60

GROUND SURFACE

ELEVATION

(METERS)

97.44

96.71

96.01

96.01

95.19

96.13

96.01

95.98

96.26

96.38

96.35

94.00

92.84

94.00

95.74

95.92

96.29

95.89

95.95

96.44

95.46

94.24

95.89

96.10

95.92

GROUND SURFACE

ELEVATION

(METERS)

96.19

96.47

95.83

95.83

96.26

96.35

96.62

94.79

93.76

93.09

92.90

96.38

94.49

93.24

CROSS SECTION 5

STATION

(METERS)

158 184 198

212

215

243 263 267

CROSS SECTION 4

872

1052

1166

1180

STATION

(METERS)

105

111

162

185

200

212

226

232

238 249

253

258 276

574 599 619

630

657

679 700

722 732 755

775

907

927

960 996

1015

1037

1128

1143

1144

1150

1152

1166

1181

1194

1202

STATION

(METERS)

CROSS SECTION 8

96.16

96.62

96.71

96.56

96.62

96.77

96.90

95.37

96.77

97.14

97.20

97.14

97.41

97.72

98.15

99.40

100.10

GROUND SURFACE

ELEVATION

(METERS)

98.85

98.33

97.51

95.92

96.93

97.51

97.08

96.74

93.18

94.12

96.29

96.87

97.02

95.80

93.88

93.88

96.04

96.29

96.62

96.77 96.80

96.38

93.70

94.27

96.29

96.56

97.02

97.02

96.99

96.90

96.80

96.83

96.83

96.80

96.90

96.99

96.96

97.11

97.14

97.11

97.35

97.47

97.60

97.66

97.32

96.80

96.87

96.99

96.90

97.08

97.29

97.14

97.23

97.11

97.32

97.47

97.11

96.56

96.29

97.17

97.63

98.39

99.00

GROUND SURFACE

ELEVATION

(METERS)

100.28

97.78

98.66

96.74

97.05

97.26

96.38

96.90

93.82

96.16

CROSS SECTION 7

TABLE 1.—VALLEY CROSS-SECTION DATA FOR WEST FORK AMITE

RIVER NEAR LIBERTY, MISSISSIPPI

By B. E. Colson, C. O. Ming, and George J. Acrement.

Prepared in cooperation with the DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION FEDERAL HIGHWAY ADMINISTRATION and the MISSISSIPPI STATE HIGHWAY DEPARTMENT





HYDROLOGIC INVESTIGATIONS ATLAS Published by the U.S. Geological Survey, 1979

BACKWATER AT BRIDGES AND DENSELY WOODED FLOOD PLAINS WEST FORK AMITE RIVER NEAR LIBERTY, MISSISSIPPI

INTRODUCTION New techniques for predicting water-surface profiles, needed in the design of economical, structurally sound, and environmentally compatible stream crossings, are under investigation. The investigation has accelerated with the advent of digital computers capable of analyzing large quantities of data. Among the techniques is the development of two-dimensional (2-D) digital models. Field data are essential for development and evaluation of these techniques for predicting water-surface profiles. This atlas is one of a series that provide a wide range of field data.

Since 1969 the U.S. Geological Survey has been collecting backwater data where wide, densely vegetated flood plains are crossed by highway embankments and single-opening bridges. This work was done in cooperation with the Federal Highway Administration Department of Transportation, the Alabama State Highway Department, the Louisiana Department of Transportation and Development, and the Mississippi State Highway Department. The objective of this cooperative project is to present the data in a format conducive to the development of improved models for predicting hydraulic responses of flow at highway crossings of streams in

complex hydrologic and geographic settings. Backwater data were obtained at 22 sites for 35 floods; that is, 11 sites had 1 flood each; 9 sites, 2 floods each; and 2 sites, 3 floods each. Analysis of data (Schneider and others, 1976) showed that backwater and discharge at these sites computed by methods presently in use, would be inaccurate. The floodflow data are unique in the range and detail in which information was collected and provide a base for evaluating digital models relating to open-channel flow.

The data sites (fig. 1) are listed below. This atlas shows flood data obtained on West Fork Amite River near Liberty, Miss., one of the 22 sites.

HYDROLOGIC INVESTIGATIONS ATLAS NUMBER

| THE MOLOGIC INVESTIGATIONS ATEN | TOMBLIT |
|--|---------|
| ALABAMA | |
| Buckhorn Creek near Shiloh | HA-607 |
| Pea Creek near Louisville | 608 |
| Poley Creek near Sanford | 609 |
| Yellow River near Sanford | |
| Whitewater Creek near Tarentum | |
| LOUISIANA | |
| Alexander Creek near St. Francisville | HA-600 |
| Beaver Creek near Kentwood | |
| Comite River near Olive Branch | |
| Cypress Creek near Downsville | |
| Flagon Bayou near Libuse | |
| Little Bayou de Loutre near Truxno | |
| Tenmile Creek near Elizabeth | |
| MISSISSIPPI | |
| Bogue Chitto near Johnston Station | HA-591 |
| Bogue Chitto near Summit | |
| Coldwater River near Red Banks | |
| Lobutcha Creek at Zama | |
| Okatoma Creek east of Magee | |
| Okatoma Creek near Magee | |
| Tallahala Creek at Waldrup | |
| | |
| Thompson Creek near Clara West Fork Amite River near Liberty | |
| | |
| Yockanookany River near Thomastown. | 333 |

DESCRIPTION OF DATA

TYPE OF DATA Data collected at all study sites consist of (1) depths, velocities, and discharges measured through the bridge openings, and (2) peak water-surface elevations along the highway embankment and along cross sections. A minimum of eight valley cross sections were surveyed at approximately one valley-width intervals in the vicinity of the bridge at each site. Locations of the cross sections were alined perpendicularly to the assumed direction of flow. Cross sections were extended to intersect the edge of the valley at equal water-surface elevations. Surveying procedures described in the U.S. Geological Survey Techniques of Water-Resources Investigations series (Matthai, 1967; Benson and Dalrymple, 1967) were followed.

HIGH-WATER MARKS Water-surface elevations were determined from high-water marks identified along the cross sections and the edges of the valley after each flood. During peak discharge measurements, water-surface elevations were marked with standard surveying stakes along the upstream and downstreams sides of the highway embankment. For some floods additional high-water marks were identified in the valley adjacent to the bridge to define in detail the water surface in the approach and exit reaches.

BRIDGE GEOMETRY Detailed bridge geometry was obtained at each site. The bridge cross section was surveyed at the most contracted section. Piers, spur dikes, wingwalls, abutment slopes, and other pertinent geometry were measured.

MANNING'S ROUGHNESS COEFFICIENT Schneider and others (1976) used composite Manning's roughness coefficient values n where frequent changes in roughness occurred. In their study, composite values of n were verified by matching step backwater computations of the water surface with actual water-surface profiles for measured discharges. The range of n values used in this report is based on values used by Schneider and others (1976). Roughness

varies from open fields to dense forests. Roughness values or ranges of roughness values in different parts of the flood plain are shown on the maps. The values shown are based on water depth. The high value is the value where water depth is less than 0.6 meter and the low value applies where water depth is greater than 1.0 meter. A linear relation of roughness to water depth is assumed for water depths between 0.6 and 1.0 meter.

PRESENTATION OF DATA The data are presented on topographic maps enlarged from standard 1:24,000 or 1:62,500 scale U.S. Geological Survey topographic maps which comply with National Map Accuracy Standards. Accuracy limitations of the base maps are retained in the enlargements. Although positions may be scaled closely on the enlargements, they are not defined with greater

accuracy than positions on the base maps. Ground elevations are placed adjacent to solid squares. Elevations of floodmarks are indicated by numerical values adjacent to solid triangles. Floodmark elevations for separate floods are shown on separate sheets. Bridge geometry and road-embankment dimensions are shown with brief notations of pier spacing and configuration.

In addition to the data points shown on the maps, discharge measurements of selected floods, plots of cross sections, and velocity distribution diagrams are shown. Cross-section elevations are tabulated to define stream channels and flood-plain features in greater detail. Each cross section is referred to a zero station established at the extreme left edge (facing downstream) of the valley.

All elevations presented in this report are referred to National Geodetic Vertical Datum of 1929 (NGVD).

FLOOD FREQUENCY Flood-frequency relations are presented graphically. Techniques for deriving flood-frequency relations are those described by the U.S. Water Resources Council (1977), and by (Colson and Hudson, 1976).

INTERNATIONAL SYSTEM OF UNITS (SI) The International System of Units (SI) is used throughout this report. All data were measured in the U.S. customary units and converted to SI units. Ground elevations which were originally determined to the nearest tenth of a foot are rounded to the nearest 0.01 meter. Water-surface elevations which were surveyed to hundredths of a foot are rounded to millimeters. The same criteria apply to all other dimensions, except contour elevations which are shown to the nearest The following factors may be used to convert SI units to the U.S. customary units:

| MULTIPLY SI UNITS | BY | TO OBTAIN U.S. CUSTOMARY UNIT |
|--------------------------------|--------|-------------------------------|
| | LENGTH | |
| Meter (m) | 3.281 | Feet (ft) |
| | AREA | |
| Square meter (m ²) | 10.76 | Square feet (ft²) |
| | VOLUME | |

Cubic meter (m³) VELOCITY Meter per second (m/s) 3.281 Feet per second (ft/s)

35.31

Cubic feet (ft3)

Cubic feet per second Cubic meter per second (m3/s) DATA FOR WEST FORK AMITE RIVER NEAR LIBERTY,

Data for West Fork Amite River near Liberty, Miss., obtained in a 5-kilometer reach crossed about midway by State Highway 567 are presented on four sheets (fig. 2). Sheet 1 contains tables showing cross-section data (table 1) and discharge data (table 2). An aerial view looking upstream in the vicinity of the bridge is shown in figure 3. Relative magnitudes of the floods

are shown on the frequency curve (fig. 4). The locations of representative ground elevations are shown on sheet 2. These are points of significant changes in cross section elevation and alinement of the axis. Plots of the cross sections are graphic presentations of the tabular data. Bridge geometry and road embankments are shown on sheet 2 as they existed at the time of the floods. The cross section surveyed at the downstream side of the bridge is tabulated on sheet 1. The cross section shown for velocity distribution was obtained by sounding from the upstream side of the bridge during the discharge measurement.

Data for two floods on West Fork Amite River are presented.

The first flood occurred December 6, 1971 (sheet 3). Ten cross sections were surveyed after this flood (sheet 2). A second flood occurred on March 25, 1973 (sheet 4). A profile of the roadway crown was surveyed after the 1971 flood. Valley cross sections as surveyed are considered valid for both floods. Manning's roughness coefficient values and the 1973 flood

boundaries are shown on sheets 2 to 4.

1976). See figure 4.

FLOOD OF DECEMBER 6, 1971 Peak water-surface elevations, the measured cross section, and velocities for the flood of December 6, 1971, are shown on sheet 3. The flood crested at an elevation of 98.036 meters at the reference point located on the downstream guardrail 15 meters from the left abutment. The peak discharge was 402 cubic meters per second (m3/s), from a stage-discharge relation developed for the site. A discharge of 391 m³/s was measured on the recession at an elevation of 97.975 meters at the reference point (table 2). The recurrence interval of the peak discharge is approximately 100 years (Colson and Hudson,

FLOOD OF MARCH 25, 1973 Peak water-surface elevations for the flood of March 25, 1973, are shown on sheet 4. The average crest elevation at the downstream bridge abutments was 98.109 meters. The peak discharge was 481 m³/s from the stage-discharge relation for the site. No discharge measurement was made during this flood. The measured cross section and velocity distribution for the measurement of April 8, 1973 are shown on sheet 4. The recurrence interval of the peak discharge is greater than 100 years (Colson and Hudson, 1976). See figure 4.

SUMMARY Floodflow data that will provide a base for evaluating digital models relating to open-channel flow were obtained at 22 sites on streams in Alabama, Louisiana, and Mississippi. Thirty-five floods were measured. Analysis of the data indicated methods currently in use would be inaccurate where densely vegetated flood plains are crossed by highway embankments and single-opening bridges. This atlas presents flood information at the site on West Fork Amite River near Liberty, Miss. Water depths, velocities, and discharges through bridge openings on West Fork Amite River near Liberty, Miss. for floods of December 6, 1971, and March 25, 1973, are shown, together with peak water-surface elevations along embankments and along cross sections. Manning's roughness coefficient values in different parts of the flood plain are shown on maps, and floodfrequency relations are shown on a graph.

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION Other information pertaining to floods in Alabama, Louisiana, and Mississippi may be obtained at the offices of the U.S. Geological Survey listed below: U.S. Geological Survey Room 202, Oil and Gas Board Building (P. O. Box V)

University, Alabama 35486 U.S. Geological Survey 6554 Florida Boulevard (P. O. Box 66492) Baton Rouge, Louisiana 70896

U.S. Geological Survey 430 Bounds Street Jackson, Mississippi 39206

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Water Resources Council Bull. 17A, 163 p.

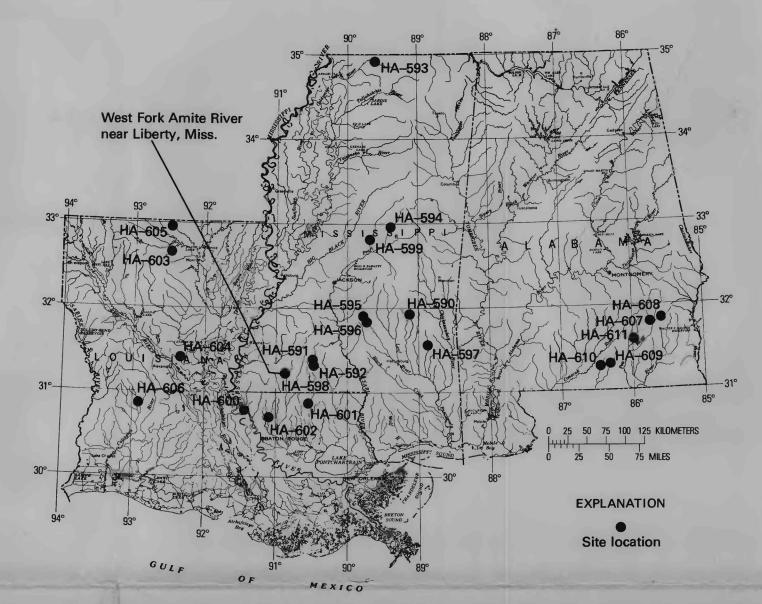


FIGURE 1.—INDEX MAP OF STUDY SITES IN THE BRIDGE BACKWATER INVESTIGATION PROJECT, ALABAMA, LOUISIANA, AND MISSISSIPPI

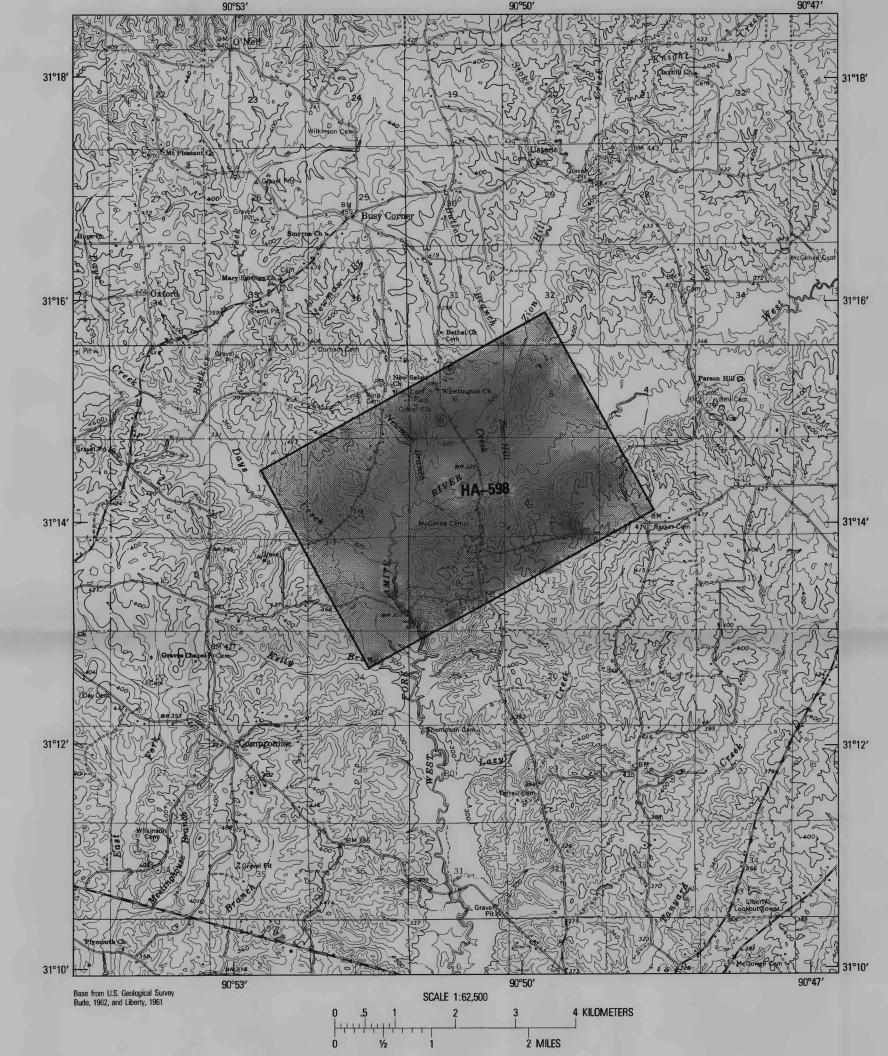
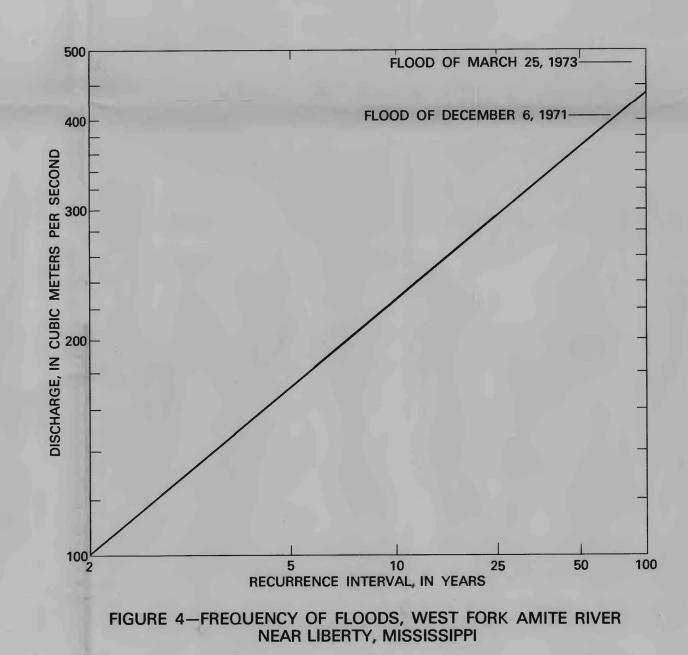


FIGURE 2-INDEX MAP OF STUDY REACH, WEST FORK AMITE RIVER NEAR LIBERTY, MISSISSIPPI



FIGURE 3—AERIAL VIEW LOOKING UPSTREAM AT BRIDGE ON STATE HIGHWAY 567 NEAR LIBERTY, MISSISSIPPI



CROSS SECTION 9 (Cont.) CROSS SECTION 8 (Cont.) **CROSS SECTION 1** CROSS SECTION 5 (Cont.) GROUND SURFACE **ELEVATION** 96.32 97.23 98.48 417 96.44 243 96.74 797 99.27 100.10 95.22 **CROSS SECTION 10** 95.25 96.90 GROUND SURFACE 95.89 93.73 276 **STATION ELEVATION** 96.10 93.48 (METERS) 96.74 (METERS) 93.27 102.11 97.23 93.30 96.32 101.74 97.90 97.08 92.38 100.83 89.49 98.15 97.23 100.28 89.92 97.84 110 135 156 158 99.79 97.32 90.65 99.12 97.02 98.82 95.86 95.74 93.42 99.43 95.43 93.39 186 210 223 228 249 263 98.94 93.60 95.40 97.57 98.66 93.70 98.82 96.13 97.32 93.94 97.26 96.01 93.42 573 97.75 98.82 96.10 97.38 93.39 98.21 93.42 96.10 97.23 273 96.44 93.66 95.95 613 96.53 96.32 95.83 276 283 284 285 290 333 348 400 93.63 95.52 93.18 96.44 97.54 97.35 95.92 93.54 96.04 98.57 93.73 98.60 93.18 96.19 98.48 96.53 90.46 97.93 97.05 **CROSS SECTION 9** 90.59 98.57 93.06 97.47 **GROUND SURFACE** 436 98.85 98.12 93.57 **ELEVATION** STATION 98.79 93.66 **CROSS SECTION 6** (METERS) (METERS) 98.36 93.63 100.89 93.70 GROUND SURFACE 98.60 100.16 512 **STATION ELEVATION** 97.87 93.33 99.30 92.45 514 97.54 516 519 538 561 576 600 613 97.87 92.26 98.02 98.63 93.91 97.57 98.48 93.91 97.11 98.63 96.47 98.72 96.32 93.48 96.29 98.05 93.57 96.32 97.69 97.26 96.56 621 637 646 97.99 212 97.90 96.35 97.41 96.87 96.01 97.96 94.27 216 653 658 96.16 97.96 226 94.91 97.35 95.86 228 666 674 683 98.08 **CROSS SECTION 2** 97.60 97.75 **GROUND SURFACE** 97.78 97.08 ELEVATION 97.75 96.68 691 99.40 317 97.66 100.58 96.62 97.51 372 96.38 97.35 95.37 **BRIDGE SECTION 1** 96.65 GROUND SURFACE 402 96.87 95.43 **STATION ELEVATION** 406 96.68 93.82 415 97.38 98.42 97.57 97.57 96.32 96.41 96.38 96.13 95.83 97.44 95.04 209 570 571 574 580 594 623 95.95 95.34 96.90 209 93.88 96.38 94.06 94.40 97.02 93.24 233 95.89 92.08 91.78 97.32 96.59 91.56 91.38 97.47 96.71 91.38 91.74 97.57 96.50 634 664 684 92.05 97.02 92.51 272 96.56 95.16 96.44 96.77 92.35 97.20 96.16 283 95.01 97.29 293 95.95 95.10 723 98.18 95.52 94.91 98.42 98.33 326 330 349 374 95.98 94.37 96.68 94.43 96.71 94.61 95.95 95.46 93.27 94.31 383 394 399 400 92.14 92.45 94.40 96.44 93.73 94.34 TABLE 2.—DISCHARGE MEASUREMENTS DECEMBER 6, 1971, AND 96.56 95.37 94.64 APRIL 8, 1973, WEST FORK AMITE RIVER AT STATE HIGHWAY 94.43 96.32 94.21 THE LEFT ABUTMENT (FACING DOWNSTREAM). 96.68 95.10 96.71 95.49 96.99 96.96 96.13 SECOND 96.80 97.08 STATION DEPTH ANGLE **OBSERVATION CROSS SECTION 3** 97.26 (METERS) (METERS) (DEGREES) **GROUND SURFACE** 97.66 **ELEVATION** 98.85 6.1 1.28 (METERS) 98.91 9.1 1.45 98.45 12.2 3.11 96.96 97.14 96.71

567 NEAR LIBERTY, MISS. ZERO STATION IS AT THE EDGE OF DISCHARGE MEASUREMENT OF DECEMBER 6, 1971 (WATER-SURFACE ELEVATION=97.975 METERS) TOTAL DISCHARGE=391 CUBIC METERS PER VELOCITY (METERS PER SECOND) 0.0 0.512 0.664 0.887 0.658 0.829 15.2 4.83 1.180 0.948 1.573 1.987 18.3 5.67 1.289 21.3 6.22 2.204 1.951 22.9 1.878 2.204 24.4 6.52 1.914 2.356 25.9 6.64 2.414 2.548 1.987 27.4 6.71 2.533 1.951 29.0 6.71 2.252 2.356 2.030 2.030 2.414 30.5 32.0 6.64 33.5 1.323 2.168 2.112 1.131 1.652 35.1 6.64 0.969 1.573 36.6 6.71 1.262 0.829 1.612 38.1 6.22 0.774 39.6 6.04 1.506 0.811 41.1 5.12 0.668 0.869 42.7 3.29 0.634 44.2 0.887 0.381 0.948 0.232 1.289 2.93 0.695 1.353 51.8 0.887 0.994 1.914 57.9 2.07 0.2 1.262 2.204 61.0 2.01 1.539 2.304 64.0 1.95 1.539 1.844 67.1 1.83 1.692 0.850 70.1 1.77 0.850 0.218 73.2 0.0 76.2 1.52 79.2 1.34 0.168 0.0 10bservation depth is the ratio of the velocity-observation depth to the total depth at the station

DISCHARGE MEASUREMENT OF APRIL 8, 1973. (WATER-SURFACE ELE-VATION=96.934 METERS) TOTAL DISCHARGE=58.9 CUBIC METERS PER VELOCITY STATION (METERS PER DEPTH ANGLE **OBSERVATION** (DEGREES) (METERS) (METERS) DEPTH1 SECOND) 7.6 0.0 12.2 3.35 0.122 0.079 0.116 15.2 4.39 0.082 0.140 18.3 4.57 0.146 0.168 0.448 0.283 0.469 21.3 22.9 5.18 24.4 5.55 0.344 0.494 25.9 5.67 0.625 0.561 0.683 27.4 5.85 0.655 0.744 29.0 0.597 0.796 30.5 6.04 0.561 32.0 6.04 0.728 0.503 0.683 0.494 0.671 33.5 35.1 5.79 0.366 0.8 0.469 36.6 5.55 0.2 0.402 0.302 38.1 5.12 0.482 0.152 39.6 0.149 41.1 4.57 0.137 0.122 0.146 0.079 0.146 42.7 3.84 0.2 44.2 1.52 0.2 0.116 0.082 45.7 1.52 0.0 0.070 0.49 0.043 51.8 0.61 54.9 0.61 0.0 57.9 0.67 0.0 61.0 0.67 0.0 64.0 0.67 0.037 67.1 0.61 0.037 70.1 0.0 0.49 73.2 0.24 0.0 76.2 0.0 ¹Observation depth is the ratio of the velocity—observation depth to the total depth at the station.

INTERIOR—GEOLOGICAL SURVEY, RESTON, VA.—1979—W79343